

**Amendments to the Specification**

Please replace paragraph [0001] as follows:

**[0001]** The present invention relates to a contactor having box terminals ~~as set forth in the preamble of Claim 1.~~

Please add the following new heading before paragraph [0002]:

BACKGROUND

Please add the following new heading before paragraph [0007]:

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

Please delete paragraph [0008].

Please add the following new heading before paragraph [0012]:

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

Please add the following new heading before paragraph [0018]:

DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF AN EMBODIMENT

Please replace paragraph [0018] with the following amended paragraph:

**[0018]** Figure 1 and Figure 2 show a top housing part 2 and two cover halves 4 and 6, which form part of the switching device housing of the three-pole contactor of the present invention. Top housing part 2 is placed onto a bottom housing part, ~~but since it is not essential to the invention, it is not shown and accommodates the electromagnetic operating mechanism of the contactor~~ which accommodates the electromagnetic operating mechanism of the contactor. Contact straps 8 are secured in top part 2, said contact straps protruding outward on terminal sides 10 and 12, respectively. Inside top housing part 2, contact straps 8 end with stationary contacts, which are connected and disconnected polewise by contact bridges ~~(also not shown)~~, said contact bridges being operated by the electromagnetic operating mechanism.

Please replace paragraph [0021] with the following amended paragraph:

**[0021]** The cover halves 4 and 8-6 equipped with box terminals 20 are slid onto top housing part 2 with a lateral movement toward contact straps 8. In the process, contact straps 8 are surrounded by clamping boxes 22. The inner sides of opposite side walls 32 of top housing part 2 are provided with guide means 34 taking the form of guide ribs and running parallel to front side 14. The lateral outer surfaces of front-side cover leg 16 are provided with mating guide means 36 taking the form of guide grooves and running parallel to front side 14. During the sliding-on of cover halves 4 and 6, guide means 34 are engaged with mating guide means 36. The lateral outer surfaces of terminal-side cover legs 18 each have formed thereon two latch means 38 in the form of latch knobs. During the sliding-on of cover halves 4 and 6, said latch means snap into two respective mating latch means 40 provided in the form of latch openings on the side walls 32, thereby firmly holding cover halves 4 and 6 on top housing part 2.

Please replace paragraph [0022] with the following amended paragraph:

**[0022]** In the fully assembled condition of the contactor, the ends of conductors to be connected are inserted into box terminals 20 through insertion openings 42 formed in terminal-side cover legs 18. Subsequently, the conductor ends are firmly clamped by tightening clamping screws 26 using a screw tool, which is inserted through access openings 44 provided in front-side cover legs-18 16.

Please amend the heading on top of page 6 as follows:

~~CLAIMS~~ WHAT IS CLAIMED IS: